

THE VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

THE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL

1939.

Dr. Pigeon, Mr. McCully, Miss Somers, Members of the Staff,

Friends, and Fellow Students :

With the regularity of the seasons, graduation time returns each year. During this month thousands of graduation ceremonies will be conducted in schools and universities throught the world. In a multitude of languages and under widely different conditions the educational institutions will graduate their students. To the observers of education in the abstract, these ceremonies will appear merely as so many formal, but unimportant, recognitions of the various steps that groups of individuals have taken in the broad educational process. To the students concerned, however, the formalities and informalities of graduation have a vastly different significance. No doubt it would be an excellent thing if an individual could view the little incidents of his life as mere ripples on the boundless sea of time, and not as tidal waves on an inland lake. We remember of course, that many institutions have sent forth graduating classes; we recognize with satisfaction the perhaps brief, but unique history of our own School; and yet we continue to share the feeling of every graduating class in its day : that our graduation is THE graduation.

Sitting here in our white dresses we have doubtless appeared to be a group of very uniform individuals. That impression will perhaps be emphasized as we receive our diplomas in an almost unvaried ritual. On the surface there seems to be good reason for H. G. Wells's suggestion that the graduate is a standardized product " shaken and examined when full, and certified to know all that there is to be known "

One who ventures to speak in anything like a representative fashion for the graduates this afternoon realizes just how deceptive appearances can be. One would like to make comments on school life, but life HERE has had a different significance for each one of us. One feels inclined to make observations regarding the future, but no norm can be found for the medley of ambitions and fears represented here. One certainly must express gratitude and appreciation, and yet even in this respect each graduate is grateful to many different benefactors. Beneath the surface the differences in Margaret Eaton graduates are more prominent than the similarities.

I need hardly suggest that we have not always been absorbed in our academic and physical work to the neglect of everything else. The supplementary contributions of school life have not been without real value. The "mind" cannot be temporarily isolated and educated apart from the entire person. Nor indeed, can that "mind" later function in any profession without the effective collaboration of person involved. These facts are of course obvious..... Associations with friends, the camaraderie of school life, experience in social activities; these and other influences are making a contribution, perhaps unrecognized, to the graduate -- to -- be a contribution which will unite them in common hopes, ideals and aspirations.

It is impossible for anyone to evaluate the significance of the past two years. These years have been good to us, and the experience has been profitable in itself. The future is not so certain..... it is futile to attempt any prediction of the various prospects which await each of us.

Some of us will continue in graduate studies. For us there will be a continuation of the comparative security of University life. For some of

our class, on the other hand, today marks the transition to the insecurity of a less protected life in the present - day world.

The graduate today can possibly find many justifications for a thorough - going pessimism. The prospect scarcely suggests those lines of the poet :

" Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive,
But to be young was very heaven. "

And yet it is interesting to remember that Wordsworth wrote those words of bouyant optimism, not of a period of calm and prosperity, but in one of chaotic conditions associated with the French Revolution. Perhaps the hectic circumstances of our own day merriit a similar attitude from us who graduate this afternoon.

I have remarked upon our differences on one point however, we are apparently in complete agreement. Our presence here as graduates receiving diplomas, or as friends who are interested in the work of these graduates surely attests our belief in the values of a professional career ... however much those values may differ for each personality.

MISS SOMERS and MEMBERS of the STAFF : You have seen to it that our stay here has been a profitable one, rich in experience and in inspiration. The condition of our work has been your constant care, and in a good many cases, I am afraid, it has been a considerable^{le} care. Much we have learned about learning - - - and sometimes about the means of avoiding it. Yet you have seen to it that the work did go on, and under your guidance² the various aspects of our profession, are becoming, each year, part of the progress of Physical Education. You have borne with us and counselled us through many

places where the way seemed long and we hope that we may have done something worthy of a place in your memory. We leave you with sincere regret. In the name of the Class of '39 I wish to thank you for your earnest and untiring efforts and bid you farewell.

JUNIORS : Today we leave you and into your hands we give the reins of student government and affairs. Where we have failed - may you succeed. We urge you to remember the privilege that is yours. You are intermediate links in a splendid tradition. Many have gone before you and carry the spirit of MARGARET EATON to the four corners of the globe. Many more will follow after you. May you use all the latent power of heart and mind to keep this great tradition unsullied and inviolate. The Class of '39 has every confidence in you and bids you make true wisdom your constant search. Profit by our mistakes and above all do not shirk the responsibilities and obligations which will be yours as professional women.

CLASSMATES : WE stand together for the last time. Tomorrow we must take our places in the outside world. For two years now we have studied and laughed and played together. We have cultivated friendships which we shall always cherish as among the beautiful associations of our lives. At MARGARET EATON we have studied together; let us when we separate continue to be students, worthy of the name, and carry the high traditions of our School, realizing that we are united by bonds that are stronger than chains of iron and steel.

Let us go forward cheerfully and with determination to surmount all obstacles. This will demand courage. Courage is needed today as never before.

Courage to use our talents to the full; to stand by our convictions in the face of hostility and ridicule; to carry our high resolves and noble purposes through to completion. Faith too is essential. We must have faith in ourselves, in our work and in our fellowmen.

" How high is grandeur to our dust,
How near is God to man /
When Duty whispers low " THOU MUST "
The Youth replies " I CAN " . "

VALEDICTORIAN : ~~Martha A. Sterne~~

Martha A. Sterne

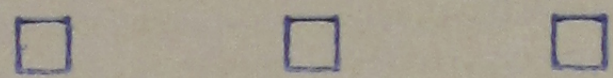
Patricia
Martha (Paty) Sterne

A Recital of the Modern Dance

by Students of

THE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL

Under the direction of
MARION HOBDAV



HART HOUSE THEATRE

Saturday, April 29th, 1939, at 8.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME

Lights will be raised between numbers in order to facilitate the reading of programmes.

Dance is an art which makes meaning evident through body movement. As in all true art, the dance reflects its environment and grows out of the experience of the dancer. The vocabulary of movement is unlimited, and suitable techniques are employed to convey the essence of each dance. The movements are not a direct interpretation of the music, but rather the movements and music grow together into a form which is a dance.

1. INTRODUCTION *Scott*

2. RUMOUR *Reutter*

3. DANCES FOR CHILDREN

(a) Candle Light *Scott*

(b) Scene from Snow White *Arranged*

4. DANCE SUITE

An interpretation of the original dance forms.

(a) Minuet *Palmgren*

(b) Two Waltzes *Gray*

(c) Pavane *Gray*

At the Spanish and French courts the pavane was developed into a processional pageant of great dignity and imposing spectacle.

(d) Swingomania *Benjamin*

5. JOYFUL EFFUSION *Haas*

INTERMISSION

6. PARIS DECREES *Arranged*

As one sheep follows another, so do women follow fashion.

(a) Mad Pursuit of Youth

(b) Return to Romance

(c) That Square Look

(d) The Sleek Silhouette

(e) Schiaparelli Fantasy

7. TWO LITTLE DANCES

(a) Tranquil Interlude *Dalcroze*

(b) Bagatelle *Sekles*

8. REFUGEE *Lapatnikoff*

9. STRIKE—By the Dance Club *Arranged*

(a) Monotony

(b) Agitation

(c) Negotiation and Strike

(d) Compromise

(e) Reconciliation

10. ROUND *Early Manuscript*

11. FIVE PLEASANT PEOPLE *Sinding*

12. CHORALE *Franck*

GOD SAVE THE KING

All dances on this programme have been composed by the students performing them, under the direction of Miss Hobday.

Accompanist
FLORA M. GRAY

Music for "Two Waltzes" and "Pavane" by
MISS GRAY

Costumes by
MARION HOBDAY, JESSIE LOARING, AILEEN FARMER

STUDENTS OF
THE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL
FLORENCE A. SOMERS, *Director*

SENIORS

Adrienne Adams . . . Toronto, Ont.	Carol Hendry Toronto, Ont.
Gwendolyn Baalim . Lethbridge, Alta.	Joyce Jarvis Toronto, Ont.
Dorothy Barber . . . Cranbrook, B.C.	Dorothy Laidlaw Ottawa, Ont.
Joan Brown Fort St. John, B.C.	Jessie Loaring Windsor, Ont.
Dorothy Cameron . . . Toronto, Ont.	Anne Lyster Victoria, B.C.
Frances Christie . . . Owen Sound, Ont.	Winnifred MacLennan, Brookfield, N.S.
Sylvia Collier-Wright . . Victoria, B.C.	Kathleen Marsh Manitou, Man.
Ruth Corner Pefferlaw, Ont.	Frances McConnell . . Walkerton, Ont.
Margaret Davison . . . Welland, Ont.	Shirley Muddiman . . . Winnipeg, Man.
Dorothy Forsyth Winnipeg, Man.	Katharine Reed Woodstock, N.B.
Dorothy Frappier . . . Hornepayne, Ont.	Martha Sterne Edmonton, Alta.
Marjorie Fraser Sydney, N.S.	Jean Sutton Toronto, Ont.
Helen Gould Turner Valley, Alta.	Elinor Walker Toronto, Ont.
Phoebe Hamilton Victoria, B.C.	Rhoda Wood Edmonton, Alta.
Shigeko Hasegawa Tokyo, Japan	Julia Wright Toronto, Ont.

JUNIORS

Ann Bartlet Windsor, Ont.	Margaret May Nipawin, Sask.
Elizabeth Black Regina, Sask.	Jessie McGibbon . . . Moore's Mills, N.B.
Elizabeth Bleakney Victoria, B.C.	Jean Meredith Vancouver, B.C.
Diana Cameron Long Island, N.Y.	Jean Morrison Rossland, B.C.
Katharine Cumming Halifax, N.S.	Edith Seixas Toronto, Ont.
Frances Greenway Lethbridge, Alta.	Kathleen Staples Duncan, B.C.
Rosemary Heseltine, Yokohama, Japan	Cecilie Swanson Calgary, Alta.
Kathleen Light Falconbridge, Ont.	Mary Walker Toronto, Ont.
Mary Lunan Kirkfield, Ont.	Maryon Weiss Winnipeg, Man.
Elizabeth MacKenzie . . . Westville, N.S.	Marianne Wilkin Toronto, Ont.
Joan MacMillan Quebec, Que.	Ruth Woodsworth . . . Edmonton, Alta.



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